



# Representative Jim McCune

## 2nd Legislative District

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**Committees:**

- Capital Budget
- Housing
- Juvenile Justice & Family Law,  
*Assistant Ranking Republican*
- Joint Committee on Veterans'  
and Military Affairs

**Dear Friends,**

The 2006 legislative session is under way. I appreciate the opportunity to serve you as your representative in Olympia.

This session, I've been **working** on many important issues, including:

- Property tax exemptions for disabled veterans and seniors
- More roads to ease traffic problems within the 2nd District and throughout the state, directing more funding to our district
- Protecting parents' rights in schools
- Maintaining the penalties for manufacturing methamphetamine, enacted last year
- Seeking ways to reduce the cost of school transportation in rural areas
- Maintaining a balanced budget **without raising taxes**
- Fulfilling the commitment to fund public education and the state employee pension and gain sharing programs

In addition, I'm committed to keeping a handle on unnecessary spending. I believe in saving our surplus funds for a rainy day, and I'll work toward killing any bills that add pork to the already ballooning state budget. Our economy improved greatly during 2005, but that doesn't mean that we should be indiscriminately throwing money at every new proposal that comes along. This budget surplus could be temporary and we must be prepared for any downturns that may come along in the future.

I invite you to contact me any time with your ideas, questions or concerns. And if you have an opportunity to visit Olympia, please feel free to stop by my office.

Sincerely,

Jim McCune  
State Representative



**TTY (Hearing-impaired Hotline):** 1-800-635-9993

**Legislative information on the Internet:** [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**State government on the Internet:** [access.wa.gov](http://access.wa.gov)

# 2006 Session Under Way



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## 2nd District transportation projects moving along

- Funding for a second bridge on the Puyallup River
- Working for short term fixes for SR 162, i.e., turn lanes, traffic lights
- Yelm by-pass, \$33 million allocated for design and right of way acquisition
- Cross Base Highway connection, working together with Pierce County and federal agencies
- Enhancing Elbe's and Ashford's economic viability, via long-overdue rest stops coming in 2008



## Cracking down on meth makers

To help fight the meth problem that continues to plague our cities and rural areas, I co-sponsored legislation that aimed to cut methamphetamine production and use. The bill reduced accessibility to products commonly used to manufacture meth, such as ephedrine



and pseudo-ephedrine, and limited the amount a person can buy at one time. The

legislation also created pilot projects for keeping logs of those that are frequent purchasers of cold medicine. For the safety and well-being of our families, **we passed this bill to do everything in our power to stop meth makers in their tracks.**

This session some interest groups are attempting to erode the work we did by passing the bill last session. I'll work hard to stop any changes to the bill I worked so hard to pass.

## Ongoing capital projects

Serving on the Capital Budget Committee allows me continued opportunity to direct needed projects to the deserving citizens of our district. While we have experienced successes, in addition to the above-mentioned projects, I continue to champion the cause for more funding for:

- Rainier Historic School/Community Center
- Bethel Aquatic Center
- Eatonville Family Park
- Stage Stop Museum, Eatonville
- Orting Bridge for kids



## Alternatives to the WASL and tutoring

We all want high scholastic achievement in schools, and clear standards of competency should be reached by all our graduates. They need to be ready to pursue college, technical school or a rewarding vocation. I support expanded opportunities for students to get the skills they need to be ready for graduation.

We should all be confident that the performance of our



future graduates is measured accurately, and I will be looking at alternatives to the WASL test this session. We need more than one way to measure a child's level of academic achievement in school, and our assessment should offer a way to compare student achievement with the rest of the country.

## Property Tax exemptions for our veterans

HB 1019 (which exempted 100% disabled veterans from property taxes) was passed in the House, but altered in the Senate before the 2005 session was over. I am co-sponsoring a replacement bill that brings back the original language to assist our low-income, disabled veterans.



## Supporting our veterans

### *New state license plates*

Legislation I supported last session created the new Armed Forces license plates. These license plates are now

on sale and the proceeds from those sales support programs and services for homeless

veterans and memorial funds. I encourage everyone to support these veterans' programs by contacting the Department of Licensing and arranging to purchase one of these very worthwhile license plates.



# 2006 Session Under Way



## Veterans Conservation Corps

The Veterans Conservation Corps was put into law as a result of legislation passed last year. Veterans participate in volunteer opportunities on projects that help restore Washington's rivers, streams, lakes, marine waters and open lands. Those coping with wartime experiences, such as post traumatic stress disorder, are eligible to be included in the volunteer efforts. Veterans interested in the conservation corps can call 1-800-562-2308 or e-mail Mark Fischer at the state Department of Veterans Affairs: [markf@dva.wa.gov](mailto:markf@dva.wa.gov).



## • 2nd District Survey •

Please list your order of importance on the left, and rate each topic on a scale of 1 – 5, with 5 being of utmost importance to you, on the right:

- |  |       |
|--|-------|
| _____ Controlling government spending<br>and saving for the "rainy day" fund | _____ |
| _____ Improving roads and highways   | _____ |
| _____ Testing student achievement by a method other than the WASL            | _____ |
| _____ Passing a constitutional amendment to protect marriage                 | _____ |
| _____ Eliminate the "death tax"  | _____ |
| _____ Requiring a super-majority vote to pass any new tax increases          | _____ |
| _____ Clarifying the definition of an "emergency clause"                     | _____ |

Please detach and return or deliver personally when you visit Olympia.

**Comment section  
on back page**

*Rep. McCune with pages  
Christa Ulianich and Edith  
Ulianich from Spanaway.*



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Representative

**Jim McCune**

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**Comments:**

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**2006 Session Under Way**

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